

Message Text

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ORIGIN TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 PRS-01 SS-15 SSO-00 PA-02

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DRAFTED BY TREAS: LBOWDEN:CL
APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN
TREASURY: GLPARSKY
TREASURY: RCLEARY
TREASURY: WF RHATICAN

----- 115249

O 242202Z FEB 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 044421

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:OVIP, SA, US (SIMON, WILLIAM E.)

SUBJECT:RIYADH MEDIA COVERAGE

REF: USREP 0141

FOLLOWING TEXT HAS BEEN TELEXED TO USREP.

1. SCHEDULING OF PRESS CONFERENCE AT 1900 HOURS SUNDAY EVENING IS ACCEPTABLE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE HEARING WHETHER TIME IS ABSOLUTELY FIRM.
2. COVERAGE AS OUTLINED IN REFMESSAGE SEEMS SATISFACTORY TO US. WE HAVE FOLLOWING COMMENTS.
3. SIMON WILL MAKE BRIEF ARRIVAL STATEMENT AND WE WILL HAVE COPIES OF STATEMENT IN ENGLISH TO DISTRIBUTE TO PRESS AT THAT TIME. SINCE REMARKS WILL BE BRIEF, DO NOT FEEL ARABIC TRANSLATION NECESSARY.

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4. PRESS CONFERENCE SCENARIO LOOKS OK. AS YOU PROPOSE,

SECRETARY WILL BE PREPARED TO MAKE SEVERAL POINTS, IN EFFECT SUMMARIZING COMMUNIQUE AND WHAT HAS HAPPENED DURING DAY, THEN TAKING QUESTIONS.

5. IN LIGHT OF THIS, THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE A NEED FOR DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE, UNLESS SAG FEELS STRONGLY ABOUT IT. SECRETARY SIMON WOULD BE WILLING TO MAKE A BRIEF DEPARTURE COMMENT IF NECESSARY.

6. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY FURTHER INDICATIONS YOU MAY HAVE ABOUT PRESS MATTERS BY COB YOUR TIME FEBRUARY TWENTY-FIVE SO WE HAVE LATEST WORD BEFORE EARLY THURSDAY MORNING DEPARTURE WASHINGTON. INGERSOLL

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